

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending October 7, 2001**. Cooler and drier weather conditions have allowed farmers to make significant advances in harvesting fall crops. Some areas are in need of rain for the winter wheat planting. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 25 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2000	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Harvested	98	94	100	98	--	--	--	--	--
Cotton	Harvested	43	26	74	56	10	14	29	32	15
Rice	Harvested	88	76	82	88	--	--	--	--	--
Sorghum	Harvested	98	96	100	97	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Turning Color	100	97	99	96	--	--	--	--	--
	Shedding Leaves	94	86	94	87					
	Harvested	64	53	69	57					
Wheat	Planted	20	6	10	17	0	4	31	58	7
	Emerged	8	0	5	5					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	98	94	95	98	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	75	65	60	54	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						1	4	13	64	18
Pasture						1	4	25	53	17

County Agent Comments

“Rains Friday night will slow up fieldwork. Corn and rice harvests have been completed with record setting yields. Soybean harvest is moving toward completion with the Group V beans yielding excellent. Cotton harvest is well under way with the yields to date being below average.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore County

“Cotton picking has started and it is yielding much better than we thought it might have earlier. Corn harvest is continuing at a rapid pace with yields holding up real well, even though some lodging has gotten to be a problem. Hay harvest is rounding the corner to a fast finish. Some folks are already starting to leave some hay uncut because they don't have any more room for storage.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

“Pastures and cattle are in really good shape going into the fall and winter. Grass and hay are abundant and soil moisture has been adequate for planting winter pasture. Friday and Saturday morning rains were needed to germinate recently planted fields. Soybean harvest will begin in earnest this week.”

— Don Bales, Wilkinson County

“Cooler temperatures have halted fall armyworm activity in summer pastures. Planting of ryegrass/small grains pastures is still in full swing. Soils are drying out rapidly, in spite of periodic rain showers. We need some widespread appreciable rainfall all over the county to ensure optimal germination of cool season forages.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall County

“Harveting operations continued throughout the week until rains halted them Friday night. Local amounts totaled 1-2 inches across the county. A few early bean fields have been plowed down due to phomopsis infestations. Yields are running in the high 30s on soybeans except for some notable varietal failures. Cotton harvest is getting into full swing. Cool night time temperatures has slowed summer pastures but the rains have invigorated the fall grazing. Cattle are entering the fall in good to excellent condition and hay supplies are more than adequate.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

Weather Summary from October 1, 2001 to October 7, 2001 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	84	43	65	68	-3	1.50 E	+0.87	1	1.51 E				
Cleveland	87	42	66			1.71		1	1.71				
Tunica	84	43	65	67	-2	0.59	-0.05	1	1.27	74	58	65	0.17
Extreme/Average	87	42	65	68	-3	1.27	+0.60	1	1.50	74	58	65	0.17
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	84	31	60	65	-5	0.50 E	-0.25	1	4.14 E	75	58	67	0.15
Memphis	84	43	64	68	-4	0.81	+0.16	1	2.70				
Oxford	84	38	61	65	-4	0.85	+0.07	1	1.66				
Extreme/Average	84	31	62	67	-5	0.72	+0.01	1	2.83	75	58	67	0.15
3. Northeast													
Booneville	81	39	62	66	-4	1.20	+0.45	1	2.91				
Corinth	82	37	63	66	-3	0.40 E	-0.33	1	2.23 E				
Iuka						0.65		1	2.35				
Pontotoc	83	40	63	66	-3	0.70 E	-0.09	1	1.56 E	76	64	72	0.20
Tupelo	85	39	62	67	-5	0.80	+0.03	4	1.54				
Verona													
Extreme/Average	85	37	62	66	-4	0.75	-0.03	2	2.12	76	64	72	0.20
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni													
Greenwood	86	39	62	69	-7	2.63	+1.86	3	2.81				
Rolling Fork	91	42	67	69	-2	0.12	-0.63	1	0.26	91	64	79	0.18
Stoneville	85	47	67	69	-2	0.40 E	-0.26	1	0.79 E	81	64	73	0.22
Yazoo City	87	43	65	70	-5	0.90	+0.06	1	1.72				
Extreme/Average	91	39	65	69	-4	1.01	+0.26	2	1.40	91	64	76	0.18
5. Central													
Carthage	86	38	62	68	-6	0.40	-0.31	1	1.25				
Jackson	84	47	64	69	-5	1.10	+0.39	2	1.61				
Winona	84	39	60	66	-6	2.00	+1.26	1	2.15				
Extreme/Average	86	38	62	68	-6	1.17	+0.40	1	1.67				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	82	50	67			0.40 E	-0.31	1	1.16 E	72	63	68	
Columbus	83	45	62	68	-6	1.00 E	+0.25	1	4.29 E				
State University	86	42	65	68	-3	1.46	+0.67	1	2.36	80	66	74	0.17
Extreme/Average	86	42	65	68	-3	0.95	+0.17	1	2.60	80	63	71	0.17
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	84	44	65			0.00		0	0.87	86	60	76	
Natchez	82	40	64	71	-7	1.20	+0.36	1	5.50				
Oakley	86	40	65	69	-4	0.60	-0.09	1	0.89	90	60	77	
Vicksburg	84	42	65			0.94		1	1.95				
Extreme/Average	86	40	65	70	-5	0.69	-0.08	1	2.30	90	60	76	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	83	43	65	71	-6	1.07	+0.38	1	3.18				
McComb	82	46	65	70	-5	0.74	-0.06	3	0.79				
Extreme/Average	83	43	65	70	-5	0.91	+0.16	2	1.99				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	86	41	65			0.80 E		1	2.38 E				
Hattiesburg	83	44	66	70	-4	0.95	+0.26	1	2.76				
Laurel	84	44	64	70	-6	0.19	-0.50	2	1.13				
Meridian	86	41	64	69	-5	1.28	+0.57	4	2.12				
Newton	86	37	62	68	-6	1.00	E+0.2	1	1.96 E	80	57	70	0.13
Extreme/Average	86	37	64	69	-5	0.84	+0.12	2	2.07	80	57	70	0.13
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	83	47	65			1.25		1	3.71				
BiloxiAFB	81	50	69			0.00		0	4.91				
Gulfport	81	46	68	73	-5	0.02	-0.90	1	2.78				
Pascagoula	84	48	68			0.03		2	2.20				
Poplarville	84	46	67	72	-5	0.00	-0.81	0	1.16	87	68	76	0.21
Extreme/Average	84	46	67	72	-5	0.26	-0.57	1	2.46	87	68	76	0.21
State	91	31	64	69	-5	0.86	+0.11	1	2.11	91	57	72	0.18

DFN = Departure from Normal.